

Atty. Dkt. No.: 200312726-1

REMARKS

This Reply is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 30, 2007 in which claims 1-9, 11-27, 50-51 and 53-55 were rejected. With this response, claim 7 is amended. Claims 1-9, 11-27, 50-51 and 53-55 are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

I. Request for an Examination of Acknowledged Linking Claim 28

As seemingly acknowledged by the Examiner in the last response by having to rely upon dependent claim 31 to support his restriction requirement, independent claim 28 is a generic linking claim. Since claim 28 has substantially all the claim limitations of claim 1, upon allowance of claim 1, the previous restriction requirement should be withdrawn and currently withdrawn claims 28-36, 38, 40-46 and 52 should be reinstated and allowed.

II. Rejection of Claims 10-25 and 38 under 35 USC 112, Second Paragraph

Page 2 of the Office Action rejected claims 1-9, 11-27, 50-51 and 53-55 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. For the reasons which follow, the rejection should be withdrawn.

A. Claim 7

Page 3 of the Office Action indicated that the "first edge" lacks antecedent basis. In response, the limitation "first" is removed, wherein the limitation "edge" finds proper antecedent basis in claim 1.

B. Claims 1, 2, 21 and 53-55

With respect to each of claims 1, 2, 21 and 53-55, the Office Action repeatedly asserts that there is no claimed relationship between the noted structures. This is not true.

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In claim 1, the print head is recited as extending along a media path having a first width. The structure is recited as having an edge extending across a majority of the first width of the media path. Thus, the two recited elements are associated with one another via the media path.

In claim 2, the ink recipient is recited as extending across the media path. Thus, the ink recipient is associated with the print head and the structure by means of the recited media path.

Claim 21 recites an ink receiving cavity. Claim 21 further recites that the first segment and the second segment (recited in claim 1) are separated by a channel having a tapered floor configured to drain collected ink to the ink receiving cavity. The first segment and the second segment are part of the recited structure which extends across a majority of the first width of the media path. The print head is recited as extending along the media path. Thus, each of the elements is associated with one another in the claim.

In claim 53, the print head is recited as extending along a media path. The structure is recited as having an edge extending across a majority of the media path. Thus to element are associated with one another.

In claim 54, the print head is recited as being a long a media path. The structure is recited as having an edge extending across a majority of the media path. The ink recipient recited as extending across the media path, wherein the structure is configured to elevate the medium above collected ink of the ink recipient. Thus, each element is associated with one another in the claim.

In claim 55, the print head is recited as extending along a media path. The structure is recited as having edge extending across the media path. The ink recipient as recited as extending across the media path. The landing as recited as attending opposite the structure. Thus, each element is associated with one another in the claim. Accordingly, the rejection of each of claims 1, 2, 21 and 53-55 is without merit and should be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

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After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-9, 11-36, 38, 40-46 and 50-55 are now pending in this application.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2025. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 08-2025. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 10-29-07

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